

would it be agreeable for you to tell us briefly about the bill, and then we will walk through it according to your letter? Would that be agreeable with you?

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Mr. President. Yes, that is agreeable. LB 769 was introduced last year. If you recall, there was approximately seven days of debate, not full days, but in some cases, three, four hours, and several amendments. I think last count there was at least 18 amendments last year, plus there are several, I understand, this morning pending. So, eventually, LB 769 will have a rules suspension so that we can vote LB 769 on General File up or down. A brief explanation, Section 2 requires that written notification before an abortion can be performed on a pregnant woman at least 48 hours before the performance of the abortion. Notification shall be delivered personally or by registered mail. Section 3, as amended, this section provides for a procedure of judicial bypass, and it also allows the court to appoint a guardian ad litem for the minor and provides for the right of court-appointed counsel for the minor. Proceedings in the court shall be anonymous and confidential; and Section 4 provides for the right of an anonymous and expedited appeal to the Supreme Court when a court denies an order authorizing an abortion without notification. An order authorizing an abortion without notification is not subject to appeal. Section 5 provides that no filing fee shall be required; and Section 6 in the original bill has been deleted. As amended by the committee, Section 6 now provides that notification will not be required if the abortion is necessary to prevent the woman's death and there is not enough time to provide the required notification. It also provides that the abortion is authorized in writing by the person who is entitled to notification. Section 7 in the original bill has also been deleted and, as amended now, an abortion performed in violation of this act is a Class III misdemeanor, and a violation of this act also gives rise to a civil action by the person wrongfully denied notification, and, number three, immunity provision for persons who attempt to comply with this act, and Section 8 is the severability clause. I believe that...is Senator Ashford excused?

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk, is Senator Ashford excused? He is until he arrives, and as far as we know, he has not arrived yet.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you. That is the explanation of 769 as amended, and I will await the amendments. Thank you very much.